

## Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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SUBJECT: INTERIM REPORT ON U.S. LECTURERS

1. ON EVE OF DEPARTURE OF U.S. DELEGATION OF UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATORS, EMBASSY BELIEVES SHORT SUMMARY OF U.S. LECTURERS' EXPERIENCE THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM MAY BE HELPFUL.
2. ALL U.S. LECTURERS WELL SETTLED AND WELL ESTABLISHED IN THEIR TEACHING. WITH EXCEPTION OF ULRICH'S MEDICAL EVACUATION TO PARIS, THERE HAVE BEEN NO SERIOUS MEDICAL PROBLEMS. ALL LECTURERS IN MGU HOUSED IN ACCOMMODATIONS SIMILAR TO LAST YEAR'S GROUP. BRODY IS LIVING IN THREE-ROOM APARTMENT WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN SET ASIDE FOR U.S. PROFESSOR LECTURING AT HISTORY FACULTY. ALL OTHERS ARE IN TWO ROOM SUITES IN STUDENT DORMITORIES. PROFESSOR LE-WU LU WHO IS LECTURING AT MOSCOW INSTITUTE FOR BUILDING AND ENGINEERING HAS BEEN GIVEN THREE-ROOM APARTMENT IN APARTMENT BUILDING NOT FAR FROM HIS INSTITUTE. LECTURER CADY AND WIFE IN VORONEZH, WHOM EXCHANGES OFFICER VISITED THIS WEEK, HAVE BEEN GIVEN ONE ROOM IN STUDENT DORMITORY. ROOM HAS BEEN PLEASANTLY FURNISHED, INCLUDING LARGE TV. PROFESSORS BLACK AND BAKER IN TBILISI ARE HOUSED AT IVERIA HOTEL PENDING COMPLETION OF NEW STUDENT/FACULTY DORMITORY ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUS.

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3. ALL PROFESSORS REPORT THEIR LECTURES WELL ATTENDED BY

MIXTURE OF ADVANCED UNDERGRADUATES, GRADUATES AND FACULTY MEMBERS, SOME COMING FROM OUTLYING INSTITUTIONS. NUMBERS OF ATTENDEES RANGE FROM THIRTY TO OVER A HUNDRED. MOST LECTURES ARE DELIVERED ONCE A WEEK AND ARE THREE HOURS IN DURATION. IN ADDITION SOME LECTURERS ARE ALSO GIVING SEMINAR TO SMALLER GROUPS. LEHAN IN AMERICAN LITERATURE, FOR EXAMPLE, CONDUCTS WEEKLY SEMINAR ON SELECTED 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN POETS AND NOVELISTS. MAJOR PROBLEM FOR SEMINAR IS LACK OF TEXTS FOR STUDENTS BUT EMBASSY HAS BEEN ABLE TO HELP BY XEROXING TEXTS FROM BOOKS AVAILABLE IN EMBASSY'S SMALL BUT RELATIVELY COMPLETE LIBRARY OF CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN LITERATURE.

4. ALL LECTURES ARE ATTENDED BY FACULTY ADVISORS. GENERALLY THERE IS NO ATTEMPT TO CENSOR OR DIRECT LECTURER'S REMARKS. HOWEVER, PROFESSOR LATTMAN AT MGU GEOLOGY FACULTY WAS ASKED NOT TO LECTURE ON THEORY OF CONTINENTAL SHIFTS ON WHICH THERE IS FUNDAMENTAL DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN HIMSELF AND WOMAN PROFESSOR WHO IS HIS FACULTY ADVISOR. LATTMAN REPORTED THAT CHAIRMAN OF DEPARTMENT PRIVATELY ADMITTED THAT LATTMAN POSITION CORRECT BUT THAT NONETHELESS STUDENTS ARE STILL TAUGHT EARLIER, ERRONEOUS THEORY. LEHAN ALSO ASKED BY WOMAN PROFESSOR IN CHARGE OF U.S. LITERATURE NOT TO USE ONE TEXT OF NORMAN MAILER'S FOR SEMINAR BECAUSE IT TOO RACY. STUDENT PRIVATELY TOLD LEHAN THAT TEXT FAMILIAR TO MANY STUDENTS AND NOT CONSIDERED AT ALL OBJECTIONABLE BY THEM BUT THAT IT PROBABLY WAS TOO RACY FOR WOMAN PROFESSOR. LEHAN WAS ALSO TOLD BY SEMINAR STUDENTS THAT THEY FIND PRESENCE OF SOVIET PROFESSORS IN SEMINAR TO BE INHIBITING AND AS CONSEQUENCE THEY DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN SEMINAR AS ACTIVELY AS THEY MIGHT OTHERWISE. MOST LECTURERS DO NOT MAINTAIN OFFICE HOURS AND OUTSIDE CLASSROOM CONTACT WITH STUDENTS MATTER OF CHANCE AND PERSISTENCE OF INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS AS WELL AS LECTURER. LECTURER BRODY HAS INVITED HIS STUDENTS TO COME TO HIS APARTMENT FOR WEEKLY INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS BUT WITH LITTLE SUCCESS. CONSEQUENTLY INFORMAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN US LECTURERS AND STUDENTS DURING WHICH PROFESSOR OFTEN MAKES HIS GREATEST IMPACT IS LESS FREQUENT THAN IN US.

5. ALL AMERICAN PROFESSORS LECTURE IN ENGLISH WITH EXCEPTION OF BABBY WHO IS COMPETENT IN RUSSIAN. LECTURES OF HISTORIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BRODY AND PROFESSOR OF LITERATURE LEHAN ARE NOT TRANSLATED. MOST OTHERS ARE TRANSLATED AND CADDY IN VORONEZH REPORTS THAT HE IS COMPELLED TO WRITE OUT IN LONG HAND HIS LECTURES WEEK IN ADVANCE FOR BENEFIT OF TRANSLATOR.

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6. IN ADDITION TO LECTURES AT UNIVERSITY, MOST LECTURERS HAVE ALSO BEEN INVITED TO LECTURE AT DIFFERENT INSTITUTIONS IN MOSCOW AND LESS FREQUENTLY AT OTHER CITIES. LEHAN HAS ALREADY LECTURED AT THE GORKY INSTITUTE OF WORLD LITERATURE AND AT USA INSTITUTE ON CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN LITERATURE AND IS SCHEDULED TO GIVE A LECTURE AT THE LIBRARY OF FOREIGN LITERATURE. PROFESSOR OF LINGUISTICS BABBY HAS BEEN INVITED TO DELIVER A SERIES OF LECTURES AT THE PUSHKIN INSTITUTE OF RUSSIAN LANGUAGE IN MOSCOW AND IS ALSO INVITED TO LECTURE AT THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE SCIENCES IN LENINGRAD. PROFESSOR LATTMAN HAS BEEN INVITED BY THE INSTITUTE OF AEROGEOLOGY IN LENINGRAD TO LECTURE IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND IN ADDITION WILL ADDRESS A NATIONWIDE CONFERENCE OF SOVIET GEOLOGISTS LATER THIS MONTH. PROFESSOR CADY HAS BEEN INVITED TO DELIVER TWO LECTURES AT THE INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGY IN MOSCOW AT THE END OF MAY. THESE ARE INDICATIVE OF THE WIDE REACH WHICH THE LECTURER PROGRAM HAS ACHIEVED BOTH THIS YEAR AND LAST.

7. MOST OF OUR LECTURERS HAVE ALSO TAKEN AN ACTIVE PART IN FACULTY PROCEEDINGS AND SEVERAL HAVE BEEN ASKED TO DELIVER REPORTS, PARTICIPATE IN DEFENSES OF THESES OR ADVISE ON PAPERS BEING PREPARED BY FACULTY. IN ADDITION, PROFESSOR ULRICH HAS BEEN ASKED BY HIS COUNTERPART ON THE THEORETICAL PHYSICS FACULTY OF MGU TO CO-AUTHOR A BOOK ON SOME NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THEORETICAL PHYSICS WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN ADEQUATELY

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TREATED IN BOOK FORM. THE PROJECT WOULD INVOLVE PROFESSOR ULRICH TO RETURN NEXT YEAR TO BOTH LECTURE AND WRITE THE BOOK WITH HIS COUNTERPART.

8. IN CONTRAST TO LAST YEAR'S PROGRAM LECTURERS THIS YEAR HAVE NOT YET TRAVELED MUCH SO FAR AND MANY LECTURERS ARE BECOMING CONCERNED ABOUT EVIDENT LACK OF PREPARATIONS FOR TRAVEL. IN MEETING WITH MGU'S PRO RECTOR FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS TROPIN, MOSCOW CONTINGENTS WAS TOLD THAT ONLY TRIPS WITH SERIOUS PROFESSIONAL PURPOSE WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN THIS YEAR. PROFESSOR CADY FOR EXAMPLE HAS REQUESTED LOCAL FIELD TRAVEL IN THE VORONEZH AREA AND TRIPS TO MOSCOW AND TBILISI BUT HAS NOT HAD A RESPONSE FROM HIS UNIVERSITY. HOWEVER, MGU HAS SAID IT WILL ARRANGE FOR ITS LECTURERS TRIPS TO KIEV, LENINGRAD AND TBILISI TO DELIVER LECTURES AND MEET COLLEAGUES.

9. AS ABOVE INDICATES, ONCE US LECTURERS HAVE ARRIVED IN COUNTRY AND SETTLED INTO THEIR LECTURING ASSIGNMENTS, THEIR PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL EXPERIENCES ARE LARGELY FRUITFUL AND HAPPY. DEPARTMENT IS WELL AWARE OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS WHICH STILL PLAGUE EXCHANGE AND QUALIFY ITS SUCCESS. LATENESS OF SUBMITTING REQUESTS, NOMINATIONS AND ACCEPTANCE BY MHE AND THE LATE ARRIVAL OF SOME SOVIET LECTURERS CONTINUE TO THROW SCHEDULES OUT OF KILTER AND CAUSE INCONVENIENCE AND IN SOME INSTANCES THE LOSS OF QUALIFIED CANDIDATES. FOR INSTANCE, PROFESSOR DEL WICHE DROPPED OUT OF PROGRAM AFTER SOVIETS DELAYED TOO LONG IN INFORMING EMBASSY THAT HE HAD BEEN ACCEPTED FOR FIRST SEMESTER AT TBILISI UNIVERSITY. LIKEWISE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA AND BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY WITHDREW INVITATIONS FOR TWO SOVIET SCHOLARS WHO FAILED TO ARRIVE ON CAMPUS WITHIN REASONABLE TIME. ANOTHER PROBLEM WHICH LIMITS EFFECTIVENESS OF PROGRAM IS IMBALANCE BETWEEN SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES. FOR EXAMPLE FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 1975-76 SOVIETS HAVE NOT REQUESTED ONE US LECTURER IN HUMANITIES OR SOCIAL SCIENCES AND IN THEIR RESPONSE TO US REQUESTS HAVE NOMINATED A SLATE HEAVILY WEIGHTED TOWARDS SCIENCES.

10. IN CONCLUSION PROGRAM IN USSR WORKS BEST AFTER US LECTURERS HAVE ARRIVED, AT WHICH TIME THEY QUICKLY ESTABLISH AN IMPROTANT PRESENCE ON CAMPUS AND MAKE WIDESPREAD AND IMPORTANT PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS OFF CAMPUS. THIS HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEEN CHARACTERISTIC OF PROGRAM IN BOTH YEARS IT HAS BEEN IN OPERATION. UNFORTUNATELY ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS THAT BECAME APPARENT EARLY IN PROGRAM ARE ALSO STILL CHARACTERISTIC OF EXCHANGE AND YIELD BUT SLOWLY TO PERSISTENT DEPARTMENT/EMBASSY EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE IMPROVED PERFORMANCE BY MHE.

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